Enquiry into clearance to Jet

2592. SHRI SHARAD YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether High Level Committee has sought an independent enquiry into the Ministry's speedy decision to open-up international skies and grant Jet Airways passage right to the USA on the opening day of its Initial Public Offer (IPO);

(b) whether according to this Committee, the timing of the decision pushed up the Jet's IPO prospects and issue was oversubscribed within minutes of its opening; and

(c) if so, whether Government have appointed any enquiry commission as demanded by the Committee and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) The recommendation of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on 'Demands for Grants' of Ministry of Civil Aviation for an independent enquiry in the matter of grant of speedy clearance to a private airline to fly abroad, which led to oversubscription of its IPO has not been accepted by the Government as its decisions were not guided by the dates of issue of IPOs of private companies. It was intimated to the Committee that the decision to permit Indian scheduled airlines to operate foreign destinations was the culmination of a long process and was consciously taken after due consideration by the Cabinet, which would help in better utilization of our bilateral rights, improve connectivity and create business opportunities within the country, which in turn would help the economy as a whole.

New Airport in Haryana

2593. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have an airport in Haryana close to Delhi;

(b) whether in the Mega Special Economic Zone sanctioned by Haryana Government to Reliance, it is mentioned that it will have a airport with Cargo facilities, if so, what is the actual position; and

(c) what is the progress of having civil airport with international flights in Chandigarh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No such proposal has yet been received by Airports Authority of India (AAI).

(c) There is a plan for construction of new terminal building complex and associated facilities at civil enclave of Chandigarh airport subject to release of identified land by Ministry of Defence.

New look to IGI Airport

2594. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give a new look to the IGI Airport, before the Commonwealth Games, 2010;

(b) if so, the details of the modernisation plan; and

(c) how far this will help to improve the economic growth of the airport?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Joint Venture Company (JVC) is required to expand the airside capacity by adding a parallel runway with adequate taxiways for entry/ exit to the runway. JVC is also required to construct a new passenger terminal to cater to both the domestic and international passengers and also provide adequate parking space in addition to improving the access roads to the airport.

(c) As the Airports form the basic, infrastructure and the key economic drivers for the Travel, Tourism and Commerce industries, the development of airports will have a direct and indirect effect on the economic growth of the country.

Enquiry of cartels by Competition Commission of India

2595. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Competition Commission of India (CCI) is legally empowered to undertake enquiries of cartels, use of dominance and regulation of combination and acquisition;

(b) if so, whether CCI have probed the cartelisation of Jet-Sahara deal; and